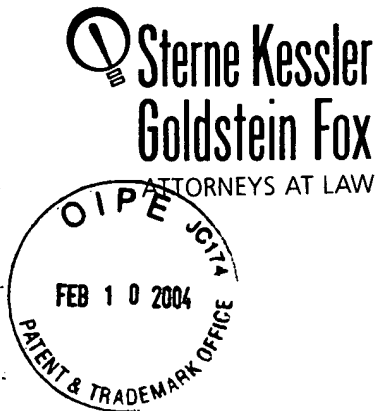




Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
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Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
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Linda E. Alcorn
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Albert L. Ferro*
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Eric W. Ledford*

Michael D. Specht
Jessica L. Parezo
Timothy A. Doyle*
Cynthia M. Bouchez
Nicole D. Dretar*
Ted J. Ebersole

Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman

Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Rutherford
Eric D. Hayes
Michelle K. Holoubek
Robert H. DeSelms
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukerjee
Scott M. Woodhouse

Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith
Marvin C. Guthrie

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February 10, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8643
INTERNET ADDRESS:
AFERRO@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/685,328; Filed: October 15, 2003
For: **Stent with Increased Longitudinal Flexibility and Scaffolding**
Inventor: Ronan Thornton
Our Ref: 1737.2600000/ALF/EDH

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 one (1) sheet citing six (6) references AA1-AF1; and
3. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
February 10, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ALF', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Albert L. Ferro
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 44,679

ALF/EDH:nar
Enclosures